TIMELINEZ

```
*************************************
H  A  P  P  Y     B  I  R  T  H  D  A  Y
*************************************
     T  I  M  E  L  I  N  E  Z     I  S     N  O  W
         T  H  R  E  E     Y  E  A  R  S     O  L  D
*************************************
```

CONTEST

WIN A COMPUTER! WIN A COMPUTER!

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATERIAL TO TIMELINEZ FOR THE ISSUES FROM JULY 1986 THROUGH JUNE 1987 WILL BE GIVEN POINTS FROM 1 TO 3 (BASED UPON THE SIZE AND QUALITY OF THE ITEM).

IN AUGUST 1987, A DRAWING WILL BE HELD. THE MORE POINTS THAT A CONTRIBUTOR HAS ACCUMULATED.. THE MORE CHANCE OF WINNING!

THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A BRAND NEW TS-2068 OR, POSSIBLY, A NEW Quantum Leap!

FROM TIME TO TIME, THE CURRENT SCORE WILL BE REPORTED.

WE WANT ARTICLES ABOUT SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE PROJECTS THAT YOU ARE WORKING ON...OR REVIEWS OF SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE ITEMS THAT YOU HAVE ACQUIRED...OR HINTS ON PROGRAMMING...OR WHATEVER!

SWAP MEET

TIMEX SINCLAIR SWAP MEET

1-5 PM, SUNDAY
JULY 20, 1986

PENSINSULA HOSPITAL
1783 EL CAMINO REAL
BURLINGAME

FOR ALL TS USER GROUPS
AND FOR ALL TS USERS

CONTENTS

****
SVSTUG NEWS
by Bill Miller
****

At the 860527 GUTS/SV (SVSTUG?) meeting Mark Waller demonstrated his battery operated TS1000. S.N. Stein showed the "TIMEX engineering department Spectrum trouble shooting manual" that he got at a flea market along with two Spectrums, a low serial number TS2040 printer and what appears to be a prototype TS2020 cassette recorder. Could this be the setup that was used to develope the TS2068?

Margaret Finney is attempting to convert a Maze generating program from Home Computing Magazine to use on her TS2068. The program is for an IBM PC. Can anyone help?

Welcome to new member Bill Phillips. Bill is interested in high res graphics for charting data on his TS1000.

Henry Pollard is looking for a TS2068 -CHEAP-.

A SPECIAL NOTICE FOR OUR N/L EXCHANGE FRIENDS

If you were kind enough to send a copy of your N/L to Robert Kelly in support of our prisoner T/S aid program, you may have had your donation returned with the message that Robert is no longer there. We have just received word that he has finally been granted parole and we hope that our help played a small part in his release.

There are still a number of inmates interested in T/S computing, and we ask you to please take a minute and change your mail list to the following address:

      Mr. William J. Kassel
      Pre Release Supervisor
      215 East Bonanza
      Las Vegas, NV 89158

Mr. Kassel will see to it that your N/L gets distributed among the inmates. THANKS FOR CARING.

****
PUG NEWS
by Norm Lehfledt
****

The July 20th meeting of the Peninsula Users Group will be given over to a swap meet to which members and former members of all three Bay Area Timex/Sinclair Users Groups will be invited.

Following a suggestion by Russ English and other members of EBZUG, the Peninsula Group discussed and agreed to the proposal at its May meeting. It was also agreed that the June and July issues of TIMELINEZ would go to an expanded mailing list that would include former members of all three groups who may have T/S items they wish to dispose of.

Be sure and remind anyone who might be interested of this event. It will get under way at 1:00 P.M., July 20th in the Sierra Room at Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame (see map elsewhere in this issue).

Also at the May PUG meeting:

Jack Dohany has an AERCO CPM terminal connected to a 2068 for demonstration purposes. He was unable to bring it to the meeting, but would be happy to talk with anybody about it or show it to those who care to drop by his house. Call for an appointment.

Rex Lundgren, who has been doing 1000 and 2068 repairs for Sunset Electronics, reports that most of the problems he is seeing are caused by careless attachment and removal of peripherals. Rex reminds everyone to be sure all power is off before removing or attaching peripherals. Particular care should be taken with those devices which use a blob of solder as a locating key for the edge-connector. The solder is a conductor and is also very soft and so is easily deformed or displaced, which may cause the two connectors to mis-mate (Imagine the trouble THAT can cause!).

I showed some pictures that had been downloaded from CompuServe in the Run-Length-Encoded format and then been decoded and printed by my QL computer. See my article elsewhere in this issue.

George Mockridge received a letter from attorneys for a company marketing a software line called 'TIME LINE.' The letter asks us to cease and desist infringing on their trade mark with our name 'TIMELINEZ.'

Pat Morrissey has found an attorney for us who is handling the case 'pro bono' (free), and who says we are probably safe on grounds of prior use. If we wanted to be nasty we might even collect royalties from THEM!

See you at the next PUG meeting, Sunday June 15.

"SUPERCALAFRAGALISTIC"

Thats my impression of the Fest. Every one who attended had a great time. On Sat. the crowd was elbow to elbow in the exhibition room. A lot of software and literature was sold plus some big ticket items such as QL's and Disk Drives. I predict that there will be another T/S Fest in 12 to 18 months.

Our thanks to all of our Club members who put in a lot of work preparing for the event and man- ing our table.

Also a "job well done" to the Cinci Fest Committee. They put in a lot of hours to make the event a big success.

All of our Club members who attended should have a lot of stories to tell at the next several meetings.

The Cincinnati Computer Fest was absolutely GREAT!!! If they have another one (I'm pretty sure they will) you should go at all cost! My only real regret was that I could only go for one day! (Sat.) I was also rather disapointed that nobody from the John Oliger Co. was able to make it. I know that I would have purchased his disc system right then! (I ordered it anyway) I never saw so much NEAT computer stuf in one place before! It was just like computer heaven must be! It's a good thing that I didn't take a lot of money or I would be broke now. As it was I bought a DSDD disc drive and a bunch of software.

Let me tell you, a LOT of money changed hands! Of course we all know that a dollar for Sinclair products goes much further that for other computer systems! I would have to say that one of the biggest hits there was the QL. Many were sold and many orders were taken. I mean when you think of it, it's hard to believe that you can get computer that has high res graphics, 32 bit, micro drives(TWO) built in, and much more, AND including a high res color monitor, AND a high quality printer with graphics and letter quality mode for well under $1000 bucks! To top it off, they throw in a Great software package that is worth practicly the cost (or more) of the computer for free! I think it will be a real shame if the QL is dropped and not picked up by another company since Amstrad doesn't plan to continue with it.

Disc drives were also a big hit especially since there are so many to pick from now! There were also reps for micro drives and practicly every supplier of Sinclair and Timex equipment and software! Many user groups were there also. I was able to match up many faces to those we have heard of and talked to but have never seen. I saw one of our writers, (Eric Vruegas) and he is one smart guy! I also talked to Joe Williamson (SUM), Tom Woods, Jack Roberts (TS Connection), Chet Lambert (CTM) and many others.

PHONE NUMBER WORD GENERATOR
BY LAWRENCE SOUDER

WHAT DOES YOUR PHONE NUMBER SPELL OUT IF CHANGED TO LETTERS? 438-5678 SPELLS 'GET LOST'. LOAD AND RUN THE PROGRAM. ENTER YOUR PHONE NUMBER, HIT ENTER AFTER EACH DIGIT, AND IN 30 SECONDS THE FIRST 80 COMBINATIONS WILL APPEAR. PRESS ENTER TO GET EACH NEW PAGE OF 80. THERE ARE 2,187 POSSIBILITIES. LAST 'WORD' ENDS WITH 'FINE'. THIS PROGRAM WILL M-CODE VERY WELL.
ONE LAST WORD, THE NUMBERS 1 AND 0 HAVE NO LETTERS AND WILL SHOW NUMBERS ON THE SCREEN. SEE IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER SPELLS OUT A WORD OR PHRASE THAT YOUR FRIENDS CAN EASILY REMEMBER.

(Corrections by TIMELINEZ)

```
  6 LET P=0
  7 LET Q=0
 10 INPUT "ENTER 1ST NO. ";A
 12 INPUT "ENTER 2ND NO. ";B
 14 INPUT "ENTER 3RD NO. ";C
 16 INPUT "ENTER 4TH NO. ";D
 18 INPUT "ENTER 5TH NO. ";E
 20 INPUT "ENTER 6TH NO. ";F
 22 INPUT "ENTER 7TH NO. ";G
 23 CLS
 24 FOR Z=0 TO 2
 26 FOR Y=0 TO 2
 28 FOR X=0 TO 2
 30 FOR W=0 TO 2
 32 FOR V=0 TO 2
 34 FOR U=0 TO 2
 36 FOR T=0 TO 2
 38 LET M=A
 40 LET N=T
 42 GO SUB 500
 44 LET M=B
 46 LET N=U
 48 GO SUB 500
 50 LET M=C
 54 LET N=V
 56 GO SUB 500
 58 LET M=D
 60 LET N=W
 62 GO SUB 500
 64 LET M=E
 66 LET N=X
 68 GO SUB 500
 70 LET M=F
 72 LET N=Y
 74 GO SUB 500
 76 LET M=G
 78 LET N=Z
 80 GO SUB 500
 82 PRINT " ";
 84 LET P=P+1
 85 LET Q=Q+1
 86 IF P>79 THEN GO SUB 300
 88 IF Q=2187 THEN GO SUB 200
 90 NEXT T
 92 NEXT U
 94 NEXT V
 96 NEXT W
 98 NEXT X
100 NEXT Y
110 NEXT Z
200 PRINT "FINE"
202 STOP
300 PRINT AT 21,0;Q;"/";"2187";
    INPUT "PRESS ENTER TO CONT. ";R$
302 LET P=0
304 CLS
306 RETURN
500 LET J=2*M+32+M+N
501 IF J=32 OR J=33 OR J=34 THE
    N LET J=21
502 IF J=35 OR J=36 OR J=37 THE
    N LET J=22
503 IF J>53 THEN LET J=J+1
504 PRINT CHR$ (J+27);
506 RETURN
```

HAPPY 3RD

USING TIME(X) DOING TIME
or TIME WELL SPENT

by Rita A. Toth

In July of 1982, George Mockridge, President of the Peninsula
User Group (PUG), responded to a letter he received from Robert
Rhodes, the first prisoner in the Nevada State Prison to be
granted permission to buy a computer. Robert had purchased a
Sinclair ZX-81 which included an issue of SYNTAX newsletter in
which he found George's address.

In a stream of on-going letters, Robert told how his interest in
computers developed when he realized his propensity for learning
programming while taking correspondence courses in the subject.
Since he was sharing the ZX-81 and his limited knowledge with
other interested prisoners, he realized that they needed to cor-
respond with someone who could provide support and answer ques-
tions. Consequently, since July 1982, George and PUG have sent
much material dealing with specific questions from the prisoners
as well as general information about computers, printers, tapes
and programming.

In November of 1982, Robert transferred to the Southern Desert
Correctional Center (SDCC) in Indian Springs, Nevada. At SDCC,
he continued his studies in computers and was again able to in-
terest some of the other prisoners to learn programming.

In June of 1985, the National Education Corporation donated a
Computer Literacy Programming Course to SDCC. This course con-
sists of a TS-1500, a recorder and eleven course books in BASIC
programming. Needless to say, many of the prisoners have signed
up because they realize that the equipment allows them a unique
opportunity to learn about programming and computers.

Having learned programming on T/S equipment, the inmates were
able to transfer their knowledge to a KAYPRO II. (This larger
computer was donated to SDCC from a source other than PUG in the
latter part of 1985.) Using the KAYPRO II, they were able to
computerize the Parole and Probation Office in which they worked
and they told us that their program will eventually be used in
Data Recording Keeping Offices throughout the State of Nevada.

In January of 1986, George Mockridge asked me to assume the
duties of liaison with this activity.

The following are a few excerpts from a recent letter that PUG
received from one of the prisoners. I'd like to share his
thoughts and information with you:

> "I am currently involved in teaching our "Re-Entry"
> course here at the prison (SDCC). It accommodates
> about 30 to 40 professional people who come in and

instruct inmates in various fields prior to their
release into the community. One of the courses is
a course given by a Systems Analyst for the City of
Las Vegas, who has assured me that he will provide
several jobs to inmates who have medium range program-
ming abilities. He is also trying to formulate jobs
within the institution for those of us old timers who
may be around awhile. See what you guys started?!?!
Sensational stuff, to say the least."

"George has quite a reputation in the yard now. His
help and the help of the User Group is something that
gets through the grapevine pretty quick. I doubt very
seriously if you guys really know how deeply we really
appreciate the help you have extended."

"You guys would laugh yourselves sick if you could see
these big old convicts hunched over one of those 1000's
punching in data. Its such a treat to see men using
their minds instead of their fists in here. A small
wonderful light in a very violent environment. We do
appreciate you folks so much. I doubt if you will ever
know how much."

Because so many more prisoners are interested in learning about
computers and programming and because their equipment is limited,
it would be helpful if TIMELINEZ readers would send donations of
equipment, tapes, books, magazines, printers, etc.. (They are
particularly interested in obtaining a TS-2068.) Note that such

donations are tax deductible. Be sure to include a note giving
the fair market value of the donation. Send donations to:

> Mr. William J. Kassel, Pre-Release Supervisor
> Nevada Department of Parole and Probation
> Mailroom Complex
> 215 E. Bonanza Street
> Las Vegas, Nevada 89158   (702) 386-5150

or call:

> Rita Toth,   SDCC Liaison
> (415) 928-4367

I can arrange to send the items for you but you decide the fair
market value.

IMPORTANT! Because prisoners are not allowed tools, donations
must be in good working order or they will be disposed of because
the prison cannot afford to return non-working items.

All User Groups are invited to participate in this program. I
will try to keep you informed of our progress through future
TIMELINEZ articles.

```
*************************************************************
           DECODING COMPUSERVE'S
    RUN-LENGTH-ENCODED GRAPHIC'S
        ON   THE   SINCLAIR   QL
                by Norm Lehfeldt
*************************************************************
```

I have been intrigued by CompuServe's 'Run Length Encoded' graphics for some time. I knew that using this system, owners of the most popular computers could view and download pictures of participants on the Citizens Band Radio Simulator, pictures of the FBI's ten-most-wanted desperadoes, the National Weather Service's radar weather maps and similar graphic delights. The new Picture Support Forum, in particular, offers a dazzling selection of computer graphics and digitized photographs. But until now, I had not been able to learn enough about the encoding system to be able to decode the pictures with any of the Sinclair computers.

Briefly stated, run length encoding is a method of translating a screen display into a string of ASCII characters so that it may be transmitted and displayed among dis-similar computers. CompuServe subscribers may read a fuller explanation of the method in the file headed 'RLEDEC.TXT' in DL2 of the CBIG interest group on the system.

The accompanying short program will allow off-line display of the pictures on the QL. The pictures may be printed using a utility such as 'QDUMPS.'

```
100 REMark RLE Graphics Decoding Program for Sinclair QL
110 REMark by Norm Lehfeldt
120 MODE 4
130 WINDOW #1,512,256,0,0:PAPER 7:CLS
140 WINDOW #1,409,194,53,10:PAPER 0:INK 7:SCALE 194,-1,-1:CLS
150 WINDOW #0,409,30,53,226:PAPER #0,7:INK #0,0: CLS #0
160 INPUT #0,"ENTER FILE NAME: ";F$
170 X=0:Y=192:OPEN_IN #4,"mdv2_"&F$
180 B$=INKEY$(#4):IF B$<>"G" THEN GO TO 180
190 B$=INKEY$(#4):IF B$<>"H" THEN GO TO 180
200 B=CODE(INKEY$(#4))-32:IF EOF(#4) THEN GO TO 360
210 X=X+B:IF X>255 THEN Y=Y-1:X=X-256
220 W=CODE(INKEY$(#4))-32:IF EOF(#4) THEN GO TO 360
230 IF W<0 THEN GO TO 220
240 IF W=0 THEN GO TO 200
250 J=W+X-1
260 IF J>255 THEN GO TO 300
270 LINE X,Y TO J,Y
280 X=X+W
290 GO TO 200
300 LINE X,Y TO 255,Y
310 I=Y-1
320 J=J-256
330 LINE 0,I TO J,I
340 X=X+W
350 GO TO 200
360 CLOSE #4:PAUSE:CLS #0:GO TO 140
```

Some notes on using the program:

The graphics files must first be LOGged to microdrive using the QCODE terminal program. Take care to LOG as few extraneous characters before and after the file as possible.

Boot your QL in the Monitor mode (F1 at the copyright prompt). LRUN this program. It formats the screen so that it should work on TV's that don't have too much over-scan.

At the prompt enter the exact name under which you have logged the graphic file you wish to display. The cartridge containing your graphics files must be in microdrive 2. The computer may take several minutes to draw the picture, depending on how much detail it contains.

When you are through looking at the picture, pressing any key clears the screen and prompts you for a new file name.

Note that you can change the INK and PAPER colors by altering line 150. Changing line 120 to 'MODE 8' so that you can have more colors will work except that a difference in the screen mapping will produce some errors in the displayed picture.

For some reason, the QL sometimes returns a control code to the data stream when accessing the microdrive. This distorts all of the picture which follows. Line 230 traps this error, but a more elegant solution is solicited.

Let me know what you think of this and please share any improvements you make to it.

It looks fairly easy to write a program to decode these pictures for the 2068. I intend to try to find time to do it, but if you manage it first, please send it in for publication.

```
 10 REM   *************************
 15 REM      FOR THE NEXT YO YO
 20 REM   *************************
 25 LET YO=21
 30 FOR N=0 TO YO
 35 PRINT AT N,8;"HELP!! I'M FA
LLING"
 40 PAUSE 5
 45 NEXT N
 50 FOR N=YO TO 0 STEP -1
 55 PRINT AT N,8;"LET ME HELP Y
OU UP"
 60 PAUSE 5
 65 NEXT N
 70 GO TO 20
 75 REM   *************************
 80 REM       FROM TSUNAMI
 85 REM   *************************
```

* * * * * * * * *

COMPUTER CALENDAR

* * * * * * * * *

```
-------------------------------------
     J U N E
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```

15   Peninsula User Group   1:00
      Peninsula Hospital
      1783 El Camino Real
      Burlingame

26   East Bay User Group   7:30
      West Branch Library
      1125 University Avenue
      Berkeley

26   Silicon Valley User Group 7:00
      Cupertino Library
      10400 Torre Avenue
      Cupertino

```
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-------------------------------------
     J U L Y
-------------------------------------
```

20   Peninsula User Group   1:00

24   East Bay User Group   7:30

29   Silicon Valley User Group 7:00

```
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* * * * * * * * *
THE COMPUTER SHOW
EVERY TUESDAY, 7 TO 8 P.M.
TV STATION KTSF, CHANNEL 26
* * * * * * * * *
AFFORDABLE
COMPUTER HOTLINE
EVERY THURSDAY, 8 TO 9 P.M.
TV STATION KSTS, CHANNEL 48
* * * * * * * * *

E B Z U G   EAST BAY Z80 USER GROUP
=========   654 40th STREET
             RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA 94805
             (415) 234-3310

PRESIDENT: (VACANT)

 MEETINGS: FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:30 P.M.
            WEST BRANCH LIBRARY
            1125 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, BERKELEY

MAKE CHECK FOR DUES PAYABLE TO "WOODY McPHEETERS".

  P U G   PENINSULA USER GROUP
  =====   311 MICHELLE LANE
           DALY CITY, CALIFORNIA 94015
           (415) 878-1773

PRESIDENT: GEORGE MOCKRIDGE

 MEETINGS: THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, 1:00 P.M.
            PENINSULA HOSPITAL
            1783 EL CAMINO REAL, BURLINGAME

MAIL DUES TO "PAT MORRISSEY", 2000 CRYSTAL SPRINGS ROAD,
            BLDG 21, APT 22, SAN BRUNO, CA 94066

S V S T U G   SILICON VALLEY SINCLAIR TECHNOLOGY USER GROUP
===========   6675 CLIFFORD DRIVE
               CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95014
               (408) 253-3175

PRESIDENT: RITA CARR, (408) 738-2888, X-4579

 MEETINGS: LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 P.M.
            CUPERTINO LIBRARY
            10400 TORRE AVENUE, CUPERTINO

MAKE CHECK FOR DUES PAYABLE TO "SINCLINK".

THIS TIMELINEZ NEWSLETTER IS A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE THREE
TIMEX-SINCLAIR USER GROUPS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA.

NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP (WHICH INCLUDES PARTICIPATION IN GROUP
MEETINGS, THE TIMELINEZ NEWSLETTER, TAPE LIBRARY PRIVILEGES,
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ADDRESSES WITH THE CHECK MADE PAYABLE AS INDICATED.

FOR ONLY AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWSLETTER, SEND $10 CHECK
PAYABLE TO: TIMELINEZ, P.O. BOX 1312, PACIFICA, CA. 94044

M E M S C A N

by Russell English

This is a short machine code routine that displays a memory map of the computer. It is 2068 specific, but can easily be altered for the Spectrum with two pokes.

```
10   FOR X = 65500 TO 65533
20   READ Y: POKE X,Y
30   NEXT X
40   DATA  33,0,0,14,1
50   DATA  6,27,62,0,197
60   DATA  229,190,40,3,205
70   DATA  62,38,225,35,35
80   DATA  193,4,62,156,184
90   DATA  32,236,12,62,250
100  DATA  185,32,228,201
105  RANDOMIZE USR 65500
115  STOP
120  SAVE "MEMSCAN"CODE 65500,34
```

It works by scaning every other address, checking for zeros. If something other than a zero is found, it assumes that the address is being used and a point is plotted on the screen.

It is relocatable, called up with RANDOM-ZE USR n, where n is the first address; overwrites the screen, ie, it does NOT clear the screen first; does not scan the last few bytes of memory; ignores the external ROM; is interactive with the display file(s).

To scan every byte in the first half of memory, POKE 65519,0. To scan every byte in the second half of memory, POKE 65502,128: POKE 65519, 0. For SPECTRUM, POKE 65515,229 : POKE 65516,34.

A title can be added to a display with PRINT AT 1,10;"name ". The display may be compared to the memory map on p. 254 of the 2068 User Manual.

MTERM II

(buffer area)

ROM DF1 S UDG
V